Present: Kris Perlee, Mike Dash, Porter Knight, Elizabeth Blair, Helen Young, Diane Cushman, Robert Rooker (PC); Valerie Capels (Town Administrator), Ian Albinson (SB), Jessica Teets

Meeting Notes

1. Reviewed and approved the August meeting notes with one name correction.

2. Discussion regarding collecting of ideas (spaghetti dinner, postcards, online survey)

- Spaghetti dinner had 20-30 participants; top ideas were affordable childcare, housing, and a recreation center. Thanks for Ali Dabica for organizing this! Valerie explained that the town explored buying land next to the rec fields for a community center but it was too expensive.
- Ideas that the committee cannot use are still useful – for example, the planning committee is discussing updating its bylaws for things like density, etc.
- Helen Young will send out a final invitation on Front Porch Forum inviting residents to complete the survey by Sunday.

3. Discussion of data entry and coding of ideas

- Jessica Teets and her qualitative methods class at Middlebury will code all the suggestions for source of idea (postcard, survey, focus group, etc), and for the type of idea (recreation, housing, infrastructure, etc) by October 3rd for the committee to then discuss and begin consideration of ranking.

4. Discuss process of evaluating ideas, consider relative merit of "lump/split/combo" spending recommendation

- One criterion was "how to serve the most residents" – but may want to consider serving most needy residents or those most impacted by COVID, or perhaps consider demographics of Bristol to see if projects funded are serving those demographics. Further discussion at future meetings
- Also to be thinking about for future discussion: How should the money be spent – all on one project or divide it up? Completely fund one thing or use it as seed money?

5. Next meetings: October 3 and 17th 7pm at Holley Hall (with remote option)